



Nicola Sturgeon MSP
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

21 June 2019

Dear Nicola,

War In Yemen & Scottish Government Support for Raytheon

You will no doubt have heard the welcome news from the Court of Appeal, who have ruled that UK arms exports to Saudi Arabia are unlawful. This judgement should finally put a halt to companies in the UK profiting from death, destruction and misery in Yemen. Until now this deadly trade has been allowed and supported by a UK Government which has refused to check if UK-made weaponry is being used in Saudi war crimes, for which there is compelling evidence.

Today it was also revealed by the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data project (Acled) that the death toll from the conflict is nearing 100,000. ACLED has recorded 4,500 instances of civilians being directly targeted, of which the Saudi-led coalition is responsible for the majority of attacks. There is no doubt that UK-made weapons have contributed to targeted attacks on civilians. Fragments of missiles produced by Raytheon have been found at many bombing sites in which civilians, including children, have been killed or injured. Further, it is estimated that over 85,000 children have died from starvation and cholera outbreaks since the onset of the war.

The Scottish Government has recognised this catastrophe and supported the Yemen Crisis Appeal. We are also aware that you have introduced a new system of human rights assessments before public money or support is granted to a business. In light of the above, we ask that you end Scottish Government funding and support of companies who sell munitions and military equipment to Saudi Arabia, including Raytheon.

Kind regards

Ross Greer MSP
Scottish Green Spokesperson
for External Affairs

Alison Johnstone MSP
Scottish Green Spokesperson for
Children and Young People